



Date: November 12, 2004
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Carl Kemp, Manager of Public/Governmental Affairs
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: Weekly Update Ending November 12, 2004

The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending November 12, 2004 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

City Manager, Human Dignity Program

The Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force met Monday, November 8, 2004.

- The Resource Team provided a summary of police activity in beats 4, 5, and 7, an area bordered by Hill Street, Anaheim Street, Seventh Street and the southwest border of Signal Hill. The Taskforce subsequently unanimously voted to initially concentrate programs and resources in this area.
- Twenty-five youth from beats 4, 5, and 7 will be identified to receive intensive training including leadership development and academic remediation. This training is available through a \$70,000 grant for a pilot project between the Youth Opportunity Center/Youth Council (LBUSD) and Probation staff located at LBUSD High Schools
- The *Youth Employment Action Team* recommended that the Youth Council take the lead on youth employment issues. A representative from the Youth Council will continue to work closely with the Task Force.

Fire Department

Members of the Fire Department were invited to speak at the Training Resources and Data Exchange (TRADE) national conference held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The TRADE program utilizes the FEMA regionalized network to foster an exchange of fire-related training and educational information and resources among local, State and Federal levels of government. Our representatives presented innovative testing and screening processes developed by the Long Beach Fire Department that minimize costs but maximize the selection of qualified Fire Recruit candidates.

Health Department

With cooling temperatures and decreased mosquito activity, State health officials noted the end of the West Nile Virus (WNV) season this year, with a total of nearly 800 cases and 23 deaths statewide. Long Beach had a total of 15 cases and one death. The Health Department will continue to provide mosquito abatement services in conjunction with two other vector control agencies operating in the city as we prepare for next year's response to WNV.

The Health Department received 3,550 doses of influenza (flu) vaccine from State sources, which represents about half of the original vaccine order, reduced due manufacturing problems. As a result, the Health Department evaluated the highest need for vaccine in the city, and made recommendations for distribution. Priority was given to frail seniors 65 years and older and individuals with chronic medical conditions living in congregate settings, such as nursing homes and long-term care facilities. The remainder of the vaccine supply has been made available at four appointment-only flu clinics in the city, to be held November 12-19. As of November 11, all appointment slots had been filled. The Department anticipates receiving additional vaccine in coming weeks, at which point additional clinics will be held. Information will be provided when the details are known. The Health Department's vaccination information Shot Line is updated periodically with flu vaccine information, and may be reached at (562) 570-SHOT (570-7468) or from our website at www.longbeach.gov/health.

Health Department Director Ron Arias was the honorary chair of The Children's Clinic Beach Walk, which was held on November 6, 2004. Over \$60,000 was raised for The Children's Clinic, which is one of two federally designated community clinics in the city providing safety net services in partnership with the Health Department to local residents.

Library Services

Two hundred children and parents enjoyed the third annual Haunted House at the Burnett Neighborhood Library on Saturday, October 30th. The Haunted House was designed, built and decorated by Burnett Library Teen Council members, under the supervision of the Teen Services Librarian, and is the Council's major community service project of the year. Neighborhood teenagers donate hundreds of volunteer hours to provide this event for community families, with financial support from the Friends of the Long Beach Public Library.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

The City was notified that we received two grants for competitive grant programs under the state parks bond act from 2002. The first was for \$2,230,000, for acquisition of land in the Drake/Chavez Greenbelt area west of Drake Park. The second was for \$2,500,000, for the construction of a teen center and renovation of the main building at California Recreation Center.

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Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

On, Saturday, November 6, over 7,000 people attended the 8th Annual Veterans Day Parade in North Long Beach. The theme for this year was, "A Salute to Those Who Served," honoring the United States Coast Guard. Participants enjoyed watching performances by marching bands, drill teams, equestrian units, and military vehicles. There were lots of attractions for everyone such as live music by the local Long Beach Police Department's Blue Steel Band, an art show of paintings and drawings created by veterans, various exhibit booths, remote control auto racing, and much more.

Public Works Engineering

The Stormwater Management Division is pleased to announce the launching of several major stormwater construction projects. 1) The pump station trash and debris net project, implemented at city-owned pump stations SD 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 that discharge directly to the Los Angeles River, has already collected 22 tons of trash, debris and vegetation. This project includes a two-year trash-monitoring program; 2) Two Continuous Deflective Separation System Units (CDS) are now on-line. One is prior to pump station SD12 (Artesia Boulevard) and the second at Hamilton Bowl (20th and Walnut). Field inspections show that 95 percent or greater of the first flush trash, debris and greenwaste were captured at both sites; and 3) 215 of AbTech's Ultra-Urban Filter series with Smart Sponge® Plus antimicrobial technology storm drains with 786 inserts have been installed citywide.

Public Works, Construction contracts to be Bid/Awarded

Project No. R-6535 for the 2nd Street Bridge Repainting
Advertised on 10/29; Bids open on 11/24

Project No. R-6644 for the Construction of a Canopy Over the North Baggage Claim Area at the Long Beach Airport
Advertised on 10/29; Bids open on 11/24

Project No. R-6666 for the Annual Contract for Sidewalk Repairs, Curb Ramps and Related Improvements
Advertised on 10/15; Bids open on 11/10

Public Works, Projects Under Construction

7th Street between Pacific Ave & Long Beach Boulevard

North Long Beach Street Enhancements: Area A

Muriel between Artesia Blvd. and North City limits

68th Street between Long Beach Blvd and White Ave

Taylor between Harbor & Gale

Gardner between West City limits to Gale

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North Long Beach Street Enhancements: Area B

- 71st Way between Myrtle and Orange
- 71st St between Myrtle and Orange
- Lewis Ave between Penfold and Inez
- Lemon Ave between Penfold and Inez
- Cerritos Ave between Penfold and Inez
- Lewis Ave between Artesia and 67th St
- Schilling Ave between Artesia and Artesia Fwy
- Cerritos between 63rd and Artesia Blvd
- 65th St between Orange and Walnut
- 64th St between Orange and Walnut
- Walnut Ave between Harding and 64th
- Lime Ave between South and 60th
- Olive Ave between South and Janice Dr

Improvements of Easy Avenue Between Spring & 34th St

Construction of Storm Drain Pollution trap nets at pump stations SD1,SD3, SD4, SD5 and SD6

Improvement of Beach Bike Path Realignment at Belmont Pier

Improvement of Naples Island soil anchors, Phase 4

Annual contract for sidewalk repairs, curb ramps and related improvements

Anaheim St transportation improvement from San Francisco Yard to Ximeno

Construction of the Catalina Landing South Parking Lot

Airport runway 12-30 and connecting taxiways

Runway incursion prevention features and improvement to taxiway F between B and F1 and taxiway B between F & J

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Community Development, Workforce Development Bureau

The Workforce Development Bureau and Workforce Development Board will sponsor Career Expo 2004, a job fair and exposition of community resources on December 9. Participants will have the opportunity to meet local businesses that are hiring, meet exhibitors with education and training resources available, meet representatives from regional apprenticeship trades programs and attend a number of employment-related workshops. Outreach for this event is underway, and residents are encouraged to arrive with 20-30 resumes and dressed ready for interviewing. **Career Expo 2004 will be held at the Long Beach**

Convention Center Grand Ballroom, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; parking will be free to jobseekers. Call the Career Transition Center (570-3700) for more information.

Health Department

Presentations on bioterrorism preparedness will be made on November 11, 2004 at 6:30 pm at the Neighborhood Resource Center and on November 23, 2004 at the Naples Improvement Association at the Long Beach Yacht Club at 7:00 pm.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

On November 16, California Recreation Center will host the Midnight Basketball League Awards Banquet. The event will take place from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. A large turnout for this event is expected.

On November 19, a Thanksgiving Community Dinner hosted by King Park, in conjunction with the Boy's and Girl's Club, will be held from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the social hall. Over 50 club members and park participants along with their families are expected to attend.

AWARDS

American City and County Magazine named Mayor Beverly O'Neill 2004 Municipal Leader of the Year. This was announced during Tuesday's City Council meeting when Mayor O'Neill was publicly recognized for her positive influence on Long Beach and for her grand accomplishments locally, regionally and nationally.

Health Department

The Health Department's Environmental Health Bureau received this year's Apartment Association Southern California Chapter "Public Private Partnership" award due to the department's work with multi-unit property owners in creating 1,050 lead-safe housing units in the city.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Department

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,068 emergency calls for service: 139 calls for fires and 26 involving structures. It also responded to 695 emergency medical calls; 489 requiring paramedics.

Police

In an effort to impact crime, disorder and resident satisfaction, West Division Patrol Officers conducted a proactive, directed enforcement on quality of life concerns throughout the West Division. The Community Oriented Public Safety philosophy was used while conducting the operation. The operation resulted in six felony and six misdemeanor citations, 37 misdemeanor citations, 22 traffic citations, 52 field interviews, 28 parking citations, and 10 towed vehicles.

In November 2003, parolee Grant John, dubbed the "Pot Bellied Bandit" robbed 21 separate businesses in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, eight of which were in the city of Long Beach. Robbery and Career Criminal Apprehension Team Detectives tracked him to a residence in San Pedro where he was arrested. This past week, the case went to the jury and Mr. John was found guilty on 20 counts of robbery. He is a third strike candidate and is facing a maximum of 700 years in prison. He is still awaiting trial in Orange County on 10 counts of robbery and is facing an attempt escape charge from the Los Angeles County Jail.

Career Criminal Apprehension Team Detectives assisted Burglary Detectives on a residential burglary investigation that occurred in August in East Long Beach. Detectives located and arrested the suspects and recovered approximately \$1,500 worth of property taken in the burglary.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

Fire Chief David Ellis spoke about the Long Beach Fire Department's programs and services to community leaders at the Neighborhood Resource Center as part of the "Meet the Director" series on November 4. On Thursday, November 11, 2004, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., the Neighborhood Resource Center will host "Bioterrorism Preparedness" workshop featuring information from the City of Long Beach's Department of Health and Human Services.

The Wilmore Community Police Center moved from 539 W. 9th Street around the corner to 910 Daisy. The new facility is larger - 1,700 square feet - and is located in the same building it was previously housed

Neighborhood Services Bureau staff and members of the Belmont Heights Neighborhood Association planted 56 trees on November 6. City staff and volunteers met at Fremont Elementary School and worked to plant Chinese Flame and Tristania trees in the neighborhoods between 4th and 7th Streets from Termino to Ximeno.

Community Development, Housing Services Bureau

Construction loans for the Pacific City Lights Apartments, at the corner of Pacific Avenue and 16th Street, closed on November 9. Staff anticipates construction to begin in December. Pacific City Lights Apartments will provide 42 new, large family rental units for low-income working families. The development is financed with State of California Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, City HOME funds, a conventional loan from Hanmi Bank and an Affordable Housing Program grant for the Federal Home Loan Bank.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

Skylinks at Long Beach has been very popular since its official opening on Friday, October 29. The daily play has averaged 240 rounds during the week and 265 rounds on weekends. The walk-on waiting list is taking two hours to get an open tee time on the course. The restaurant/banquet side of the clubhouse is scheduled to open for service on December 15.

The west side of the Health Department's Central Facility Center at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was landscaped. The old shrubbery was removed and five crepe myrtle trees were planted along with 50 ornamental garlic plants and cover mulch was added.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Ground was broken for construction of Rotary Centennial Park. The park site was a portion of the former Pacific Electric Railroad Right-of-Way and has been vacant for many years. The City acquired the site for a park with a federal grant in 2001. The Rotary Club of Long Beach raised and donated over \$100,000 for the park's construction. Four former and the current Rotary presidents attended the ground breaking, along with Mayor O'Neill and Councilmember O'Donnell.

The contractor began construction on several smaller park sites for accessibility improvements. The sites are La Bella Fontana Di Napoli, Leeway Sailing Center, Colorado Lagoon, and College Estate Park in Council District 3; Birdcage Park and Lilly Park in Council District 5; and the Long Beach Municipal Cemetery in Council District 7.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Development, Workforce Development Bureau

For Program Year 2003 (period ending June 2004) the Workforce Development Bureau met its state and federal performance measures, and exceeded its goals for 14 of the 15 measures. Specific outcomes indicated that 92% of adult residents, 91% of dislocated workers, and 78% of youth placed in jobs retained their jobs for a minimum of 6 months after the Bureau provided assistance; adult residents increased their 6-month earnings by an average of 115%; and dislocated workers were placed in employment that led to 97% replacement of their previous wages.

Youth Opportunity Center (YOC) staff participated in the Long Beach Unified School District's 33rd Annual Career/College Exploration Night, which provided an opportunity for parents and students to meet with college, business, professional and industry representatives. With more than 4,000 students and parents in attendance, staff provided information regarding the YOC's employment, internship and volunteer opportunities, youth development services and its Resource Center.

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Over the last month, Workforce Development Bureau staff conducted recruitments for Big Savers Grocery, the federal Transportation Security Administration, HydroChem, Onyx, Core Staff/TABC, Gladstone's 4 Fish, Saf-r-Dig, Big 5 Sporting Goods and UPS - totaling 240 hires.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

On November 7, the sounds of Beethoven and Mendelssohn filled the halls of Rancho Los Cerritos as 80 guests enjoyed a string quartet from the Long Beach Symphony. The concert was preceded by a Mexican brunch on the veranda. The Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation and Long Beach Symphony co-sponsored the event for generous donors to the two non-profit organizations.

On November 12, the Nature Center's Simple Saturday program that brings ideas for living more sustainable to our community, is presenting an Alternative Gift Fair. The Fair will highlight non-profit organizations that provide services to underserved communities around the world, and offer individuals to make donations to those organizations in the name of friends and family for the holidays.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

The 14th Annual Beach Walk was held on November 6, with an estimated attendance of 500, at the Marina Green.

Canterbury Productions, with a cast and crew of 150, shot "Joan of Arcadia" on November 9-10, at Millikan High School.

Paramount Pictures, with a cast and crew of 100, filmed "The Longest Yard" on November 5, on Shoreline Dr. and the surrounding area.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Community Development, Redevelopment Bureau

The independent study of Redevelopment has begun. Clarion Associates is currently reviewing background materials and a kick-off visit is scheduled for early next month.

Long Beach Energy, Business Operations/Energy Services

November's cost of gas is 71 cents per therm, which is an increase of 22 cents per therm for October 2004. The forecast average bill for November 2004 is \$72.49, over an increase of 39% from the \$52.29 average bill in November 2003.

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Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau

The Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 3,459 service calls, including 1,026 Gas and Water Utility Turn On orders, and 766 Turn Off orders. There were 1,505 Customer Service Orders for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 162-meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed and 147 customer emergency orders were completed.

Public Works, Engineering

Other activities of note that have occurred over the prior month:

- 936 sidewalk patches completed
- 2,132 potholes filled
- 704 trees trimmed

Public Works, Storm-related damage:

- 25 trees down
- 120 code calls (limbs down/hanging)

Department of Public Works, Environmental Services Bureau

On November 8, 2004, the Environmental Services Bureau presented a Kickoff Workshop for the new Litter Abatement and Awareness Campaign. This Workshop had 40 attendees, comprised of Department Directors, Bureau Managers and key staff.

The Kickoff Workshop was a cooperative effort among City Departments. The services of a professional meeting facilitator were utilized to help develop the components of and implementation plan for a Litter Abatement and Awareness Campaign. The key components of the Campaign discussed are: Community Involvement; Enforcement Opportunities; Utilization of Existing City Support Structure; Public Education Materials; Partnership Opportunities; and Department Commitments.

The Environmental Services Bureau has created and brought online a special Litter Abatement Web site. This site is designed to sustain and further the involvement of City Departments and serve as an interactive communication vehicle throughout the entire Campaign development and implementation process. The new Litter Abatement and Awareness Campaign is one of the City Manager's four priority initiatives for FY 05.

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cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager

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City Manager Department Heads
Kathy Parsons, Public Information Officer
Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison